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The Eagle

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command

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Coffin assumes command of Army's 1st Space Brigade

By Ed White
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Col. Timothy R. Coffin assumed command of the 1st Space Brigade from the unit's outgoing commander, Col. Kurt S. Story, as Col. Roger F. Mathews passed the brigade's colors to the new commander during a July 27 ceremony.

"Since November 2002, units of the brigade have been deployed continuously in Afghanistan and Iraq," said Mathews. "The Army Space Support Teams, Commercial Exploitation Teams, and JTAGS [Joint Tactical Ground Station] crews have rotated Soldiers but the units have remained. And Soldiers have returned to these locations after short stays in the United States between rotations. This continuous record of excellence could only have been accomplished by a team of seasoned, well-trained warriors who live the Army values and epitomize the Warrior Ethos."

"The 1st Space Brigade stands before you a combat proven force that has met and continues to meet every mission. This brigade is as it is because of the great dedication from an exceptional team led by Colonel Kurt Story," Mathews added.

Mathews, deputy commander for operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) hosted the ceremony for the 1st Space Brigade, which is the operational element of SMDC/ARSTRAT.

"Over the last two years, the Soldiers of the 1st Space Brigade have exemplified these words [contained in John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech] in their continued outstanding support to the Global War on Terrorism. In addition to its fixed-base, 24/7 operations, the brigade supported numerous combatant commander exercises and maintained a continuous forward deployed presence in the CENTCOM [U.S. Central Command] AOR [Area of Responsibility] providing direct support to the 'boots on the ground' warfighter."

The quote from JFK's 1961 inaugural address reads, "We shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

In his remarks Coffin said, "The 1st Space Brigade mission remains unchanged. It is to conduct continuous space force enhancement, space support, and space control operations supporting U.S. Strategic



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Col. Timothy R. Coffin (right) receives the 1st Space Brigade colors from Col. Roger F. Mathews, deputy commander for operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command, on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Coffin assumed command in a ceremony held July 27.

Command and supported combatant commanders, enabling and shaping decisive operations."

The 1st Space Brigade has

three one-of-a-kind battalions, the 53rd Signal Battalion

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Missile Defense System goes operational during Korean missile crisis

By Maj. Laura Kenney, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) Public Affairs Officer

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) headquartered here was brought to operational level by U.S. Northern Command in response to the recent Korean missile crisis.

With interceptors located in Alaska and California, the unit, which had previously been maintained in test mode, was moved for the first time to operational status. Composed of full-time Colorado National Guardsmen and a contingent of active Army Soldiers in Colorado and manned exclusively by active Alaska National Guardsmen in

Alaska, the 100th MDB remained at high alert status for the duration of the crisis.

The crisis culminated in North Korea's multiple test launches July 4. It was determined quickly that none posed a threat to the United States or its territories. All seven (six July 4, one early the next morning) landed in the Sea of Japan. The long-range Taepodong-2 failed in the early stages of its launch.

Members of the brigade and its battalion, the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (GMD) in Alaska, rose to the heightened mission requirements with great spirit. Although vacations and military schooling had to be canceled, no complaints or grumbling was heard. This was the mission all training had been focused on for years.

A Soldier who'd been enroute to Hawaii for leave with a spouse prior to the

spouse's departure for an Iraqi deployment was called back. Cruises left for exotic locations with family members aboard as the Soldiers reported back to headquarters for duty.

The mood throughout the crisis was of taut readiness to do whatever was required.

"As we saw this play out over a span of weeks, every single Soldier wanted to be on the crew that would respond in defense of the nation. We weren't called upon to do so, but we were ready," said brigade commander, Col. Michael Yowell.

Intelligence from multiple sources kept the crews informed and on their toes.

"We had excellent situational awareness," said the brigade's

See **Korea** on page 5

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General



CSM David L. Lady
Command Sergeant Major

Missile test launches in the Far East, rocket and missile barrages and intense combat in the Middle East, and construction of a large plutonium-production reactor in southern Asia; these events have captured intense news coverage, front page headlines, and our attention over the past month. They are also examples of how the current security environment is evolving quickly and the manner in which seemingly disparate events can move us to a crisis of global importance. As noted by Dr. Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army, "This security environment, which is characterized by asymmetric adversaries, transnational terrorists, non-linear battlefields, and intense post-conflict operations, is, perhaps, more complex than at any other time in our Nation's history."

As we move into the summertime personnel turnover season, I believe it is important in this month's Command Corner to provide the context between the evolving security environment and the changes and decisions that are currently underway in the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Three over-arching concepts are driving our way ahead:

- **Support to Joint Warfighters.** First and foremost, SMDC/ARSTRAT's efforts are focused on the provision of robust and responsive space-based, missile defense, and research and development capabilities in support of our Nation's joint warfighters. The ongoing support provided by Regional Satellite Communications Centers and Joint Blue Force Situational Awareness Mission Management Center contribute immeasurably to the operational capabilities of our joint warfighters. Other SMDC/ARSTRAT activities, in the United States and deployed in theater, provide a variety of responsive capabilities. In support of Army initiatives, our steps to reduce spending also contribute to the support of joint warfighters by freeing up resources that are essential to our Nation's warfighting requirements.
- **Enhancing Capabilities.** The recent world events emphasize the importance and urgency of transforming our military capabilities and processes to meet 21st century security challenges. The 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) and 49th Missile Defense Battalion (GMD) are trained, ready and capable of executing their mission to defeat ballistic missiles in their midcourse phase of flight. The formation of the Measurement and Signatures Intelligence Advanced Geospatial Intelligence (MASINT/AGI) Node expands our capability to provide tailored MASINT and AGI products to warfighters. Our contributions in the areas of training and equipping Space Support Elements in each of the Army Modular Force headquarters and research, development, test, and evaluation contribute to enhanced capabilities. Realignment and restationing in support of the Base Realignment and Closure recommendations will also contribute to aligning ourselves to better meet future strategic and operational requirements.
- **Increasing Efficiencies.** Not only is it our responsibility to provide relevant and timely products and services, we must ensure support is delivered to joint warfighters in a streamlined and efficient manner at the lowest cost. The results will be faster and more effective support to joint warfighters. Lean Six Sigma implementation will ensure that our processes are effective and efficient and our leadership, management, and technology are focused on our most critical systems. Our transition to the National Security Personnel System provides us

See **Commander** on page 3

It is a great feeling when one can congratulate those who have done very well. Last month, we were able to recognize the outstanding Soldiers who competed for SMDC/ARSTRAT NCO and Soldier of the Year. This month, we can recognize those noncommissioned officers selected for promotion or advanced schooling by the Army Sergeant Major Promotion Board.

Congratulations to our four selectees: Master Sgt. Harold Lincoln, operations sergeant with the SMDC/ARSTRAT G-3, selected for promotion to sergeant major and appointment as command sergeant major; Master Sgt. Frank Cota, operations sergeant with the Reagan Test Site (Kwajalein), selected for promotion to sergeant major and the Sergeant Major Course; Master Sgt. William Manchester, operations sergeant with the SMDC/ARSTRAT G-3, selected for promotion to sergeant major; 1st Sgt. Virgil Ebrecht, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Space Brigade, selected as an alternate attendee to the Sergeant Major Course.

Our four selectees have distinguished themselves as unit leaders. They have succeeded as section sergeants, platoon sergeants and as first sergeants. No mission is more important than leading and training Soldiers. No matter what the military specialty, expert leaders will be selected from among their peers for promotion and greater responsibility.

These four Soldiers are combat veterans with several deployments apiece: to Germany, Korea, Alaska, Saudi Arabia, Iraq. They are veterans of OPERATIONS DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM. No experience is more valued than recent combat experience. This is an Army at war, supporting a nation in war. It will be an Army at war for our lifetimes.

All four of these senior NCOs have completed advanced schooling: First Sergeant Course, Advanced NCO Course, Battle Staff NCO Course. They have completed advanced civilian education, all having years of college credit and one a master's degree.

These sergeants have been excellent throughout their careers. Their evaluation reports show success and excellence at every level and in every job. All have had non-troop leading assignments as drill sergeants, instructors, or Reserve Component trainer/evaluators. All have served on unit staffs. These people have proven their flexibility and adaptability by succeeding in every position.

Soldiers, if you want to be like these four sergeants, and grow into command sergeants major, follow their example. Seek leadership opportunities in a variety of assignments; gain combat experience; pursue advanced military and civilian schooling; excel at whatever the Army tells you to do, wherever the Army tells you to go.

The NCO Education System has done its job. The Army has chosen well. We will all benefit from the values and abilities of these outstanding noncommissioned officers.

ON POINT!

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SMDC/ARSTRAT, ATTN: Editor, **The Eagle**,
P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Phone (256) 955-3887 (DSN 645) FAX: 645-1214
e-mail: EagleEditor@smdc.army.mil

Publisher.....Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Director, Public Affairs.....William M. Congo
Editor.....Dottie White

CG DIRECT
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What We Think

The Eagle asks:

There's a bill before Congress to take the penny out of the American currency, stating that it doesn't buy anything anymore — not even a piece of bubble gum. How do you feel about that? Do you carry pennies around and use them or put them in a jar?



Capt. Andy R. Lee
U.S. Marine Corps
1st Space Brigade
Headquarters and Headquarters Company
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I grew up in Colorado, and as a kid always liked going on the horse rides at King Soopers. I still appreciate the fact that I can take my girls to the supermarket and use those same horse rides as an incentive to keep my young ones in line during grocery shopping time. Those danged horses still only cost a penny!



Elaine Waldrep
Executive Assistant to the Deputy to the Commander
for Research, Development and Acquisition
Huntsville, Ala.

My first thought was yes, get rid of pennies because I do throw them in a jar. However, after thinking about it for awhile, pennies are well worth keeping in the American currency. When the price of gas goes up, if there were no pennies, would that mean the price would go up a nickel? How about an increase on postage stamps; sales tax; regular consumer items — a nickel at a time? No, I vote to keep the penny; it may not buy much, but it would impact our pockets if it were gone.



Robert Kyniston
G-1
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Good riddance!



Maj. Edward P. Pfeffer
G-8
Arlington, Va.

The Penny is iconic as an American Institution reinforced by the nostalgia-inducing aphorism: "Find a penny, pick it up; all day long you'll have good luck." As for removing it from the currency inventory because it doesn't buy anything; neither does a nickel, dime, or quarter by themselves. Should those coins be removed as well? If you put them together, soon you have "real money" to spend. If it's purely a matter of production economics, you could justify production cessation ... but, is that the only consideration? The result of removal from our circulating currency is a technique used by merchants to round up/down to the nearest five-cent increment. No more \$0.99 sales ... Just convince the Marketeers to price in five-cent increments. \$90 just isn't as good a buy as \$89.99. I don't typically carry any coins. (It's not polite to jingle in public. ☺) I usually keep them in a desk drawer or in the car; then use them a short time later.



Diane Schumacher
Public Affairs Specialist
Arlington, Va.

As long as retailers are going to sell their items using one to four cents as part of the price, then no, I don't want the penny to be discontinued. Besides that, I don't want retailers to hike their prices up by five cents either. A nickel is a nickel, and every penny counts in my budget.



Sgt. 1st Class Lloyd Wesley
1st Space Company
1st Space Battalion
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I think we should keep the penny in the currency. I think that with the removal of the penny, we would have to round everything up and even everything out ... taxes would change, the products we buy would need to change. I really believe the first time I purchase something and don't get my four cents back, there's going to be trouble. I don't consider myself to be a penny pincher, but members of Congress don't live out among the common folks like most. And they don't see that man using those pennies to put gas in his car to get to his two jobs, nor do they see that woman who barely had enough change to get those Pampers for her child. What happens when we can't buy anything for a dollar ... do we get rid of it? To answer your question yes, I do carry pennies, and yes, I save them in jars. For children, it starts off as a fun game, but you actually start teaching them their first lesson in saving.



Michael Calhoun
Administrative Assistant
Public Affairs Office
Phoenix Services
Huntsville, Ala.

I stopped carrying pennies probably 20 years ago. During my military career, I lived in Europe for more than 12 years and anything purchased on base was either rounded up or down. Even now, I let cashiers keep the change when pennies are involved. Yes, I think the penny should be taken out of service.

Commander

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the tools to shape a more effective and efficient workforce.

Another area in which we are responding to an evolving security environment is the development of a well-trained Space Cadre for the Army. There are currently 180 Army officers in the FA40 (Space Operations) functional area. The Space Operations Officers comprise the core of our Space Cadre, the Space Professionals. These officers complement the actions of signal, intelligence, information operations, and engineer staff officers to integrate space into operations at all levels of Army commands and in the Joint Combatant Commands.

We have teamed with the National Security Space Institute (NSSI) and the Air Force Space Command in the areas of education and training of our Army Space Professionals. In fact, the NSSI's Space 200 (S200) course has been integrated into the curriculum of the Army's Space Operations Officer Qualification Course to

establish a space fundamentals foundation. Further enhancing the Army - Air Force partnership in education and training, four FA40 officers at the NSSI provide instruction and training development across NSSI courses, contributing an Army perspective as one of the largest consumers of space support.

Assignments of FA40 field grade officers have increasingly expanded to positions outside the Army to include Joint and sister Service commands as well as other Department of Defense agencies. This summer, we will expand the strategic placement of our FA40s by placing colonels at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Space Policy Division of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the 3rd Army Space Support Element, the Army Training and Doctrine Command Space Liaison Office, the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center, and the U.S. Strategic Command's Joint Space Operations Center. We will also increase our FA40 presence at the National Reconnaissance Office by providing a

resident member of the emerging Army Coordination Team. FA40s will continue to support the Space Radar Integrated Program Office and will join the Mobile User Objective System Joint Program Office team. Additionally, we will provide a FA40 officer (non-Astronaut) to the NASA staff to work in their operations center.

Almost two years ago, General Peter J. Schoomaker, Chief of Staff, Army, stated, "The world has changed. Ambiguity is the rule. Uncertainty is the norm. And so our Army must change to build the force that can defeat the challenges that lie ahead. Our Army is transforming to better contribute in this new strategic environment with relevant capabilities. And we must have a sense of urgency." These remarks are as relevant now as they were then. It is important to remind ourselves that with every challenge, a significant number of opportunities arise for us to excel through innovation and determination. That time is now.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

What do you know about Women’s Equality Day?

By Sgt. 1st Class Jason W. Porter, Equal Opportunity Advisor, SMDC/ARSTRAT

Our men and women, both military and civilian, make sacrifices each day for mission readiness across the world in all branches of service in the Department of Defense. In 1971, Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY) introduced a Joint Resolution to Congress. The resolution was passed designating Aug. 26 as Women’s Equality Day. The date was selected to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote. The observance of Women’s Equality Day is essential to recognize the contributions of others who made sacrifices that impacted our culture toward diversity. Today, continuing efforts toward full equality impact all of us. Here are some events in history that explain why Women’s Equality Day is celebrated:

1866

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony form the American Equal Rights Association, an organization for white and black women and men dedicated to the goal of universal suffrage.

1869

The women’s rights movement splits into two factions as a result of disagreements over the Fourteenth and soon-to-be-passed Fifteenth Amendments. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony form the more radical, New York-based National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA). Lucy Stone, Henry Blackwell and Julia Ward Howe organize the more conservative American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA), which is centered in Boston. In this same year, the Wyoming territory is organized with a woman suffrage provision. In 1890, Wyoming was admitted to the Union with its suffrage provision intact.

1872

Susan B. Anthony is arrested and brought to trial in Rochester, N.Y., for attempting to vote for Ulysses S. Grant in the presidential election. At the same time, Sojourner Truth appears at a polling booth in Grand Rapids, Mich., demanding a ballot; she is turned away.

1878

A Woman Suffrage Amendment is introduced in the United States Congress. The wording is unchanged in 1919 (41 years later) when the amendment finally passes both houses.



Women of Protest: Photograph from the Records of the National Woman’s Party, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

1916

Jeannette Rankin of Montana becomes the first American woman elected to represent her state in the U.S. House of Representatives.

August 26, 1920

The Nineteenth Amendment is ratified. Its victory accomplished, NWSA ceases to exist, but its organization becomes the nucleus of the League of Women Voters.

Below is the Joint Resolution of Congress:

Joint Resolution of Congress, 1971 — Designation Aug. 26 of each year as Women’s Equality Day

WHEREAS, the women of the United States have been treated as second-class citizens and have not been entitled the full rights and privileges, public or private, legal or institutional, which are available to male citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the women of the United States have united to assure that these rights and privileges are available to all citizens equally regardless of sex; and

WHEREAS, the women of the United States

have designated Aug. 26, the anniversary date of the passage of the 19th Amendment, as symbol of the continued fight for equal rights; and

WHEREAS, the women of the United States are to be commended and supported in their organizations and activities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Aug. 26 of each year is designated as Women’s Equality Day, and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation annually in commemoration of that day in 1920, on which the women of America were first given the right to vote, and that day in 1970, on which a nationwide demonstration for woman’s rights took place.

Freedom and equal rights for all people regardless of race, color, gender, religion and national origin are some of the most important elements as a nation we treasure and enjoy. Women as well as men in the Armed Forces, both military and civilian, make important contributions each day that impact our nation and way of life. The United States Army is hard at work to create and sustain effective units by eliminating discriminatory behaviors or practices that undermine teamwork, mutual respect, loyalty and shared sacrifice of the men and women of America’s Army.

1st Space Brigade — continued from page 1

(Satellite Control), the 1st Space Battalion and the Colorado Army National Guard Space Support Battalion. The 53rd Signal Battalion has the mission of providing dependable, secure, long haul satellite communications to U.S. warfighting forces around the world and a variety of government agencies. This battalion provides 80 percent of the in-theater satellite

communications for OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM in Afghanistan. The 1st Space Battalion has had a continued presence in Iraq since the beginning of the war. The deployed Soldiers have provided space products that enhance both planning and operations for all forces within the region. The Colorado Army National Guard Space Support Battalion is also unique in that it is a National Guard element also with

Soldiers deployed to the Middle East and supporting warfighters with products and capabilities from space. One of the unique features of this brigade is that it is composed of Active Duty, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers. Products provided by the brigade to the warfighting commands include: Space weather and its constantly changing effects on satellites, communications and Global Positioning System accuracy;

satellite imagery in the form of maps and 3-D fly-throughs of terrain; early warning of missile attacks and satellite communications in a seamless grid allowing all levels of command to talk to each other whenever necessary. Under Story’s leadership the brigade has grown from about 450 Soldiers in 2004 to nearly 600 today and the brigade will reach its full compliment of personnel at more than 1,300 in 2011.

Look out Arnold! There's a new Strong Man in town

**By Staff Sgt. Charles Mercier
Unit reporter**

FORT DETRICK, Md. — On a typical day, Fort Detrick's Nalin Pond is a peaceful oasis, a quiet home to a large population of Canadian geese and deer. However, on July 7, it was host to a competition unlike any other that military community had ever seen; when the greatest athletes of Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, competed in the inaugural Strongest Man Competition.

The contest coincided with the unit's annual Organization Day, and quickly became the highlight of the festivities. Onlookers of the competition included such distinguished guests as 53rd Signal Battalion's Commander, Lt. Col. Scott Geiger and Command Sgt. Maj. Terrence Farmer.

The monoliths of men and women clashed in seven grueling events, each testing the limits of human strength, endurance and willpower. The events included the Farmer's Carry, the Crucifix, the Truck Pull, the Stone Throw, the Weight Drag, the Tumble Dry, and finally, a Tug-of-War Tournament.

The competition was fierce, as the 14 challengers for the title of Alpha Company's Strongest Man struggled desperately to earn the bragging rights granted to the champion. Highlighting the diversity of the competitors was Spc. Justin Tjernlund (the planner and organizer of the event), who adorned himself in a kilt and the Swedish flag. "I wanted to bring something different to the table while paying tribute to my Scandinavian roots," said Tjernlund. "I even entered my name in the competition as Bjorn Vasa Hammarskold, as

homage to the great Magnús Ver Magnússon."

Early in the competition, there would be no one person that dominated the field. Tjernlund took the lead in the Farmer's Carry, where the athletes carried two five-gallon water jugs over a set course, displaying finesse and agility in addition to strength. 1st Lt. Patrick Smith answered back with a dominant performance in the Crucifix; an event in which the contenders hoisted 25-pound buckets of water and held them at shoulder level for as long as they could endure.

The Truck Pull was the highlight of the competition. The punishing event required the muscle men to haul a two-ton truck 50 yards. Shurrece Kovalski, wife of Staff Sgt. Christian Kovalski, managed an impressive upset over the top-rated male contenders, even while wearing sandals. Avid cyclist Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Demars was the easy favorite to win the event, but could only manage a second place finish. "I think everyone underestimated her [Shurrece

Kovalski] strength and power," said Demars. "I simply couldn't match it." Even Farmer caught the strongman fever and was compelled to attempt the event.

Before the next series of events took place, the five lowest scoring athletes were eliminated from the competition. After the first three events, Smith had a slight lead due to one first and two third place finishes. During the next three events, Smith continued to distance himself from the competition with wins in both the Stone Throw and the Tumble Dry. In the Stone Throw event, the iron men hurled a 25-pound concrete block as far as they could. In the Tumble Dry, the contestants rolled a dryer end over end for 25 yards.

In a desperate bid for position, Tjernlund once again out-finessed his opponents in the Weight Drag, where the athletes pulled a 15-pound concrete block along the ground on a rope. Tjernlund barely edged out Sgt. Stuart Ransom, aka "Liquid Sweat," to advance to the final event, the

Tug-of-War. "At that point in the competition, every point counted, and everyone fought tooth and nail for them," said Ransom.

The final event of the day was a four-man Tug-of-War tournament, where the top four strongmen would make their final bid for the title. By this time, Smith had all but secured himself the victory, however the resilient Demars found himself still within striking distance. In the first match up, Smith (1) defeated Tjernlund (4) in a back and forth struggle. Next in the tournament, Demars (2) demolished Spc. Josef "V Diddy" Vasquez (3) in what was compared to as a David versus Goliath showdown.

The final match was between Smith and Demars — the culmination of six punishing strongman events taking their toll on the men. The competitors poured forth all of their remaining energy into this clash of the titans. After the dust had settled, Demars proved himself the better and defeated Smith in the event, but Demars' late surge in the competition was not quite enough to overcome Smith's almost insurmountable lead, thus leaving Smith the title of Alpha Company's Strongest Man.

"I am thrilled the years of training have finally paid off," said Smith. "Thankfully the competition was not just based on pure strength, but combined athleticism, technique, and most of all intestinal fortitude. I look forward to defending the title."

In the end, every rival represented themselves valiantly. Other notable finishes were Shurrece Kovalski winning the Women's Division and Sgt. Christopher Janzen winning the Senior Division.



Photo by Angela Lavalley

Spc. Justin Tjernlund pulls the two-ton truck while Sgt. Jonathan Hoover keeps time during Alpha Company's Strongest Man Competition.

Korea

continued from page 1

intelligence officer, Maj. Porter Grant. "From the initial preparations to the day the North Koreans fired, our Soldiers knew what they needed to know to perform their mission."

On the day of the actual launch, Echo crew was on duty.

1st Lt. Scott Slaughter, battle analyst for Echo crew at the Fire Direction Center in Alaska, said, "We've always understood how important our mission was; that the primary reason for our existence as a unit is defense of our nation. That day, if possible, we understood it even more clearly. As a student of history, I can say that both we and the North Koreans will learn a lot from what happened. Before and during the incident, I [we] had complete confidence in the system and our training. After the actual launches, we continued scanning the horizon because you can never let your guard down."

The FDC director on duty July 4 was Capt. Chad Haman, dual certified as a battle analyst and director.

"The real world intelligence made all the difference in the world. In the five years I've been with the system, there were never any doubts that we would be ready. After all the building, practicing and rehearsing, and then the additional build-up to this particular event, we were ready for anything. Afterward, we were able to capture excellent lessons learned," said Haman.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Ted Hildreth, who took command May 8, said that on the big day there were no surprises.

"There was an integrated sight picture of the potential threat posed by the [Democratic People's Republic of Korea] between Cheyenne Mountain, the brigade and the battalion. Our crews drilled and rehearsed any number of potential threat scenarios to practice and refine provided firing doctrine, to include defined tactics, techniques and procedures. I was there in the node the day they launched, and our response was exactly the same as had been trained for. This one just happened to be real."

In Colorado Springs, Maj. Ron Hoard and his crew came on duty at the Missile

Defense Element shortly after the first two short-range missiles had been fired. The MDE and FDC crews mirror each other, with MDE having a larger command and control role, and FDC taking the lead tactically, although they can act interchangeably.

Hoard said the prior launches had everyone in an immediate heightened state of awareness.

"Very shortly after we assumed duty, the Taepodong-2 was launched. It failed almost immediately, and we were informed pretty close to instantaneously of that failure. The crew reacted magnificently — exactly as we'd trained — going into crisis action mode without the slightest hesitation."

The GMD System, while not utilized in response to any of the launches, was available when needed to defend the United States and its allies. Trained and ready missile defense crews were at their stations on systems prepared to respond as necessary. USNORTHCOM had the primary responsibility to direct missile defense operations to protect the home-land, allies, friends and other national interests from potentially hostile acts.

Civilian News

TSP returns for G, F, C, S and I funds

Rates of return were updated on Aug. 2.

July 2006		Last 12 months (8/1/05 -7/31/06)	
G Fund	0.44%	G Fund	4.84%
F Fund	1.32%	F Fund	1.42%
C Fund	0.65%	C Fund	5.42%
S Fund	(2.79)%	S Fund	5.35%
I Fund	0.98%	I Fund	24.00%

Percentages in () are negative.

GSA warns of e-mail scam

The General Services Administration (GSA) is alerting the public of online schemers who send intended victims bogus e-mails purportedly from the FirstGov online portal operated by the agency. The e-mail tells recipients that — because of fraudulent activities on Money Access Online — they should confirm that their accounts have not been stolen or hacked by clicking on a provided link and entering information pertaining to their personal credit card accounts. GSA warns that the fraudulent e-mails, which do not originate at FirstGov or GSA, only appear to be sent from a FirstGov e-mail address. GSA, which is investigating the matter, advises users to delete unsolicited e-mails without opening them.

Senate appropriations committee OKs pay raise

The Senate Appropriations Committee July 20 approved a 2.7 percent pay raise for federal civilian workers as part of its markup of the fiscal 2007 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations bill. President Colleen Kelley of the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) called the raise “welcome recognition of the important role fair pay has in agency recruitment and retention efforts.” The increase in the Senate bill matches one approved in June by the House. Kelley noted, however, that the increase proposed by the White House in its 2007 budget proposal still stands a half-percentage point lower, at 2.2 percent.

FDA announces future improvements to advisory committee process

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced July 24 planned reforms to the agency’s all-important advisory committees, which are composed of outside scientists to pose and answer probing questions in the course of protecting the public from dangerous food, drugs and drug devices. The announcement said that the changes should lead to greater “clarity and transparency in the disclosure of waivers of relationships that could present the appearance of conflicts of interest,” among other changes. The reforms include issuing a guidance document “identifying more clearly the conditions under which conflict of interest waivers are granted.” The reforms will be implemented in the “coming months,” the agency said. For more, go to www.fda.gov.

Federal employees indicted

A federal grand jury announced July 21 it has indicted two current and two former Department of Energy (DOE) employees along with a businessman from whom the federal workers agreed to accept gratuities in exchange for assistance procuring a federal contract. Current DOE employees Timothy A. Calkins and Michael S. Craig, former DOE employees Donald S. Bragg and Charles W. Hornburg, and businessman Ernesto A. Sanchez have been charged in a conspiracy involving gratuities totaling more than \$390,000. The four government men worked together at the DOE’s Phoenix-based Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). They are charged with assisting Sanchez to secure a contract for temporary dispatchers with his company, Micro Business Technology. All five suspects have been charged with lying to federal law enforcement agents. A conviction for giving or receiving gratuities carries a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, while the false statement charge carries the same maximum fine and a five-year maximum prison sentence.

Military News

No free credit monitoring for veterans

The White House withdrew its funding request recently for free credit monitoring services for the 26.5 million veterans and family members whose information was thought to be impacted by the May 3 theft of a Department of Veterans Affairs computer. Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson announced the recovery of the stolen computer June 29. Meanwhile, the Fair Credit Reporting Act requires each of the nation’s consumer reporting companies — Equifax, Experian and Trans Union — to provide one free credit report a year to each citizen, per the individual’s request. To receive a free credit report, go to www.annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228.

\$1,000 Referral Bonus Program expanded

The latest recruiting incentive that will pay Soldiers a \$1,000 lump payment for referring applicants who enlist, complete basic training, and graduate advanced individual training has been expanded. The Secretary of the Army may pay a bonus to any Soldier who refers to an Army recruiter a person who has not previously served in the Armed Forces and enlists in the Active Army, the Army National Guard or the Army Reserves. The referral may not be an immediate family member and the Soldier referring may not be serving in a recruiting or retention assignment. The referral must be made by the Soldier at <http://www.usarec.army.mil> or <http://www.1800goguard.com/esar> prior to the new recruit’s first meeting with a recruiter.

2006 Fall/Winter Exchange Catalog available

The 2006 Fall/Winter Exchange Catalog is now available. The new catalog includes nearly 600 pages of popular, name brand merchandise geared to help military families decorate, organize or just indulge. The 2006 Fall/Winter Exchange Catalog is available at all main stores and online at <http://www.aafes.com>. Prices in this all-services catalog are valid through Jan. 15, 2007, for any authorized exchange customer. Orders can be placed by mail, fax or phone. Toll free orders can be placed from the United States, Puerto Rico or Guam at (800) 527-2345.

SchoolQuest helps military parents, students

An organization devoted to the unique education challenges that face the children of military families is using the World Wide Web to help transitioning parents and students get information about schools across the nation. SchoolQuest is organized so that you can access information that the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) has gathered to help you make decisions on future schools for your children. MCEC officials have touted SchoolQuest as a powerful Web tool, backed by boots-on-the-ground research, dedicated to helping families achieve a seamless academic and social transition for their children during a move. For more information, visit the SchoolQuest website at <https://schoolquest.org/authvb/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2findex.aspx>.

Angels support wounded troops

An Internet community of support for troops overseas called Soldiers’ Angels works to support wounded Soldiers with backpacks filled with needed items and by making personal visits and phone calls. One project, “Project Valour-IT,” provides wounded troops with laptops to use from their homes and hospital beds. More than 80,000 “angels” are registered all over the world, not including the many schools, churches and other organizations that participate as communities. For more information, visit the Soldiers’ Angels Web site at <http://www.soldiersangels.org> and the Project Valour-IT Web site at <http://www.soldiersangels.org/valour/>.

Servicemembers getting free CDs

The Armed Services YMCA is sending Servicemembers free CDs with new and old popular country music hits that express pride in America. Under the “Send a CD to a Soldier” program, the Armed Services YMCA is sending the CDs to units supporting the global war on terrorism. Since the program cannot send them to “any soldier,” the CDs are being sent to units that were identified by the different branches of the services. Individuals wishing to support the program can purchase copies of the CDs to be sent to troops at <http://www.sendacdtoasoldier.com>.

Reed meets with leaders in Majuro

By Sandy Miller
USAKA Public Affairs

Col. Stevenson Reed, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll commander, met with Republic of the Marshall Islands leaders in Majuro July 22.

Having taken command two weeks ago, Reed is hitting the ground running in meeting with local leaders and extending the hand of partnership. "We are going to be good neighbors," he said in a meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs Gerald Zakios, as the subject of the current power problems on Ebeye was raised. Reed sees the current situation as a humanitarian issue and is standing by with two generators to provide immediate assistance to Ebeye.

"Kwaj may look small, but there is much to do," advised Zakios to the new commander. "I look forward to working together with you and the leaders on Kwajalein."

During a subsequent meeting with President Kessai Note, Reed offered his theory on partnering and being a good neighbor. "We are greatly appreciative to all from the RMI who serve in the U.S. Army. We work together in Iraq and Afghanistan; why not work together here?"



Photo by Sandy Miller

From left, Kwajalein Range Services President John Pickler, Col. Stevenson Reed, USAKA commander, Ambassador Greta Morris and Minister of Foreign Affairs Gerald Zakios meet to discuss current issues.

Saturday's visit was in conjunction with a farewell ceremony for Ambassador Greta Morris, who will be leaving the RMI next week.

July 17, President George W. Bush nominated Clyde Bishop, PhD, of

Delaware, to serve as the next U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Bishop, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, currently serves as counsel general in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Bravo Company visits Gettysburg

By Sgt. Alicia Brogden
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — On July 18-20, Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, traveled 145 years back in time to the historical site of the Battle of Gettysburg. The Soldiers of Bravo Company were treated to visual military lessons while being guided through the monumental battlefield.

The trip began in the quaint town of Gettysburg, Pa., only two miles from the heart of the battlefield site. The Soldiers were guided through a day-by-day account of the battle, which lasted for the first three days of July 1863.

As the tour bus moved through the wooded areas outside of the town and into the rolling hills of the battlefield, the guide set the stage for day one. The Soldiers were able to visualize the Confederate troops moving in to flank the Union troops in the woods, pushing them into open fields. Armed with cannons capable of firing up to two miles and using new rifling technology, the outnumbered Union troops sustained a devastating blow the first day. The tour moved quickly from the Confederate victory of day one into the brutal battle of the second day.

The Union Army held the advantage by 20,000 troops on day two as reinforcements made their way to the site. They needed a victory.

With Gen. Robert E. Lee's Calvary away, Lee had to depend on information from his Confederate troops moving through the field instead of his

usual reconnaissance. The second day of battle would prove to be all about gaining position. Lee, acting on bad information regarding the Union troop's location, pushed his troops toward the highest point of the battlefield. The Confederate troops were able to hold the Union Army, but were unable to win the high ground. On the tour, the Soldiers of Bravo Company were able to walk to the highest vantage point and see the importance of the position so desperately fought for.

The bus moved forward to the last day. The Confederate Army claimed victory on the first two days.

They settled in on the West, cannons ready to fire one mile East across the open, rolling field toward Union troops. As the cannons fired, the smoke settled over the field like a thick fog allowing no visibility. The Union Soldiers absorbed the cannonade but sustained very little damage, as the Confederate cannons overshot their target and could not see to make adjustments.

The Union Army ceased fire to allow the smoke to clear. The Confederate troops, assuming sure victory with the cease fire, began the mile charge through the open field running up and down the rolling hills and over fences. The Union troops then began to open fire, inflicting nearly 8,000 casualties out of 12,000.

The leader of the Union Army at the time, Gen. George G. Meade sat atop his horse overlooking his inevitable victory, having secured the



Courtesy photo

Members of Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), stand before a monument during their tour of the historical Gettysburg Battlefield.

high ground and decimating the Confederate Army.

"It is really amazing to walk through this historical site and actually see the relevance of this battle in the training we do in the Army today. Bravo Company Soldiers are fortunate to live so close to a real life battlefield lesson such as this," said 1st Lt. Matthew Kisner, when asked what he

thought about the tour.

The Soldiers of Bravo Company were able to see the importance of battle position, strategy and logistics. They were also shown a real life example of the Warrior Ethos. Union troops, suffering hard defeats the first two days, were able to claim victory over the Battle of Gettysburg through sheer perseverance.

Army participates in Peterson

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Members of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command participated in Peterson Air Force Base's Annual Sports Day July 20. Events of the day ranged from volleyball to bowling, archery to golf, poker to soccer and much more. Although SMDC/ARSTRAT did not take home a unit trophy at the end of the day, members fared well in their individual and team events and did the command proud.



Mike Winchester goes for a strike during a bowling match.

Photo by Sharon L. Hartman



Tim Duncan with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command's G-6 makes a kill during a volleyball match during Peterson Sports Day.



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Todd Buckhouse serves the ball during a volleyball match.

Photo by Sylvia Hartman



Scott Chappell of G-3, Plans, shoots for a ringer.

h Air Force Base Sports Day



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Forces Strategic
Day on July 20.



Photo by Sylvia Hartman



Photo by Sylvia Hartman

Members of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) give it their all during the tug-of-war.



Photo by Sylvia Hartman

Sydney Hartman, daughter of Sharon Hartman from the Public Affairs Office, passes to Tim Duncan during a volleyball match.



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Members of SMDC/ARSTRAT dig in during the tug-of-war.



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

Capt. Adam Brink battles a member of a Peterson Air Force Base soccer team to gain control of the ball.

Safety

Protecting yourself against harmful sunlight

SMDC/ARSTRAT
Safety Office

Did you know that the number of new cases of skin cancer and the number of deaths caused by the most serious type of skin cancer are rapidly rising in the United States? This is particularly troubling since the numbers for most cancers have been declining. Sunlight is the main source of ultraviolet radiation known to damage the skin and to cause skin cancer. The amount of UV exposure depends on the strength of the light, the length of exposure and whether the skin is protected.

A little sunshine and fresh air is good for you, but, at least for the former, a little goes a long way. If you overdose on the sun, you could definitely pay for it sooner or later by getting hide like an elephant or skin cancer.

Sun exposure at any age can cause skin cancer — the skin and eyes are most susceptible to sun damage. You need to be especially careful in the sun if you have numerous moles, irregular moles, or large moles; freckles or if you burn before tanning; fair skin, or blond, red, or light brown hair; or if you spend a lot of time outdoors. You can prevent these problems by minimizing your exposure and protecting yourself along the way.

- Cover up. Wear clothing to protect as much of your skin as possible. Wear clothing that does not transmit visible light. To determine if the clothing will protect you, try this test: Place your hand between the fabric and a light source. If you can see your hand through the fabric, the garment offers little protection against sun exposure.

- Use a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor, or SPF, of 15 or higher. Experts recommend products with an SPF of at least 15. The number of the SPF represents the level of sunburn protection provided by the sunscreen. An SPF 15 blocks out 93 percent of the burning UV rays; an SPF 30 blocks out 97 percent of the burning UV rays. Products labeled "broad spectrum" block both UVB and UVA radiation. Both UVA and UVB contribute to skin cancer. Apply sunscreen liberally at least 15 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours or more frequently if you sweat a lot or are swimming.

Do not depend on sunscreens alone. Combine sunscreen with wide-brimmed hats, UV-protective sunglasses, and tightly woven clothing to



increase protection against UV radiation.

UV rays are most intense when the sun is high in the sky, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you are unsure about the sun's intensity, take the shadow test: If your shadow is shorter than you, the sun's rays are the strongest. Seek shade whenever possible.

You may also want to check the UV Index for your area. The UV Index usually can be found in the local newspaper or on TV and radio news broadcasts. It gives the expected noon-time UV radiation on a scale of one to 10+. The higher the number, the greater the exposure to UV radiation. The Index helps determine when to

avoid sun exposure and when to take extra protective measures.

Have respect for ultraviolet rays from the sun. Skin damage from overexposure to the sun is cumulative over the years and cannot be reversed. Once the damage occurs, it cannot be undone. Most serious and lasting damage occurs before age 18.

Protection should start early, particularly with children who enjoy outdoor play on sunny days.

Skin cancers detected early can almost always be cured. The most important warning sign for skin cancer is a spot on the skin that is changing in size, shape or color over a period of one month to two years.

The most common skin cancers — basal cell and squamous cell — often take the form of a pale, wax-like, pearly nodule; a red scaly, sharply outlined patch; or a sore that does not heal; whereas melanoma often starts as a small, mole-like growth.

So it's important that you examine your body, and see a health care clinician if you find an unusual skin change.

Additional information on skin cancer can be found at the American Cancer Society (<http://www.cancer.org>) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<http://www.cdc.gov/>).

Lawnmower safety reminders

About 75,000 people are treated in emergency rooms annually for injuries caused by lawnmowers. Most injuries are the result of human error. To be safe:

- Know your equipment. Read the instruction manual prior to use.
- Keep blades sharp and lawnmower in good working condition.
- Gas up before you start mowing, not when the engine is hot.
- Dress for safety — wear heavy shoes or boots (not tennis shoes or sandals), goggles, gloves, long pants, and hearing protection. And don't forget the sunscreen!
- Clear the yard of rocks, sticks and debris.
- Wait until the grass is dry.
- Never stick hands or feet into a mower. Stop the mower and use a stick or broom handle to remove grass or debris.
- Keep children indoors. Never give a child a ride on a mower.
- No drugs or alcohol before or during mowing.
- Be cautious on hills and slopes. Mow up and down slopes, not across, with riding mowers.



Soldier vs. grizzly in Alaskan wilderness

By Maj. Laura Kenney, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), Public Affairs

FORT GREELY, Alaska — Fantasies about the Alaskan wilderness feature glacial beauty, stark forests, exotic wildlife — but they usually don't include getting up close and personal with a grizzly bear in the middle of that stark forest. In real life, however, that's exactly what Capt. Dale Titus was faced with — something tall, dark, not ugly but definitely frightening — towering over him, and only two bullets left in his rifle's magazine.

Titus, a battle analyst in Charlie Crew, 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) stationed here, came to this showdown May 18, during a walk with his black Labrador retriever, Jake. (Do not expect heroics from Jake — as energetic and lively as he is, the bear proved a bit much for him to voluntarily tangle with.) The two, dog and man, were walking through a fairly remote spot in the Donnelly Training Area. Coming off a morning shift, the 31-year-old Titus grabbed his dog and, thankfully, his gun before setting off on an expected-to-be relaxing stroll through the spring-green trees.

Titus and Jake had come this way before; it was a favorite walk of theirs, showcasing, in his (Titus') words, "incredible views of the Alaska Range and Granite Mountains."

This day, however, turned out not to center on scenery.

After about a mile, Titus, an experienced hunter, discovered fresh bear scat on the ground. He'd frequently seen such signs, including paw prints, and never experienced trouble

before, so didn't pay too much attention. That quickly changed, however, when he came across the carcass of a moose that had recently been chewed upon.

"Jake started sniffing the ground and acting extremely nervous. I kept my rifle at the ready, but was pretty sure the bear was gone. I returned to the road and started piling up some rocks along the side to mark the location. As I placed what was to be the last rock, I heard something running towards me and grunting."

Titus looked up, and saw a huge mound of grizzly running at him full speed about 20 yards away.

"I immediately got a shot off from the hip, thinking that even if I didn't hit him, (it turned out to be a "her") the sound would scare him away. It didn't work."

He worked the pump action rifle (a .30-06 Remington) and shot again from the hip — the bear was coming so fast Titus didn't have time to aim. The shots were fired at a range of about five feet. Although the next two bullets seemed to graze the oncoming leviathan in the back and shoulder, the bear didn't appear to notice and kept on coming.

Titus by this time was backpedaling, trying to put some distance between himself and the huge animal. Jake had by now wisely departed the scene. The bear reached Titus and reared up on two legs directly in front of him. It swiped at him with long claws, leaving long bloody scratches on one side and a huge muddy paw print on his chest, both only discovered much later.

"The bear's head was just above mine." (Titus, a husky, strongly-built six-feet-tall, felt dwarfed.) "I pressed the barrel of my rifle up against its head

and pulled the trigger. The bear's head slammed back, and I knew the shot had been mortal. The bear still stood for a minute, looking like a boxer who'd been knocked out but refused to fall, then, finally, he fell."

Not dead yet, the bear was rolling around on the forest floor in agony, and Titus used his last and final bullet to finish it. Jake then came up to investigate.

But that's not the end of the story. Titus heard a noise, and looked up to see yet another bear approaching at a fast clip. He quickly reloaded with a new magazine, and prepared again to defend himself and his dog. The bear changed his mind, and reversed course, fortunately for all concerned.

Titus said everything happened too fast for him to really be scared. As an experienced hunter who obeyed all safety rules and had prudently followed the unwritten but ingrained Alaskan standard operating procedure of never venturing into the wild unarmed, he originally felt confident that he could handle the threat. But, as his first three bullets failed to stop the grizzly, he remembers thinking, "This is going to hurt."

The injuries he did receive, serious bruising and long scratches, were painful but nothing in comparison to what could have happened if it were



Photo courtesy of Capt. Dale Titus

Capt. Dale Titus shows the injuries received from a recent battle with a grizzly at Fort Greely, Alaska.

not for Titus' quick action which saved himself and his dog. As he walked back to his truck, he said he thanked God repeatedly that he and Jake were still in one piece. He also remembers being consciously grateful for the reliable gun at his side, a present from his father at the age of 14, which had accompanied him on every hunting trip he'd ever taken. This time, it had saved his life.

Maj. Wayne Hunt, Executive Officer of the 49th and also an avid hunter, said that Titus did everything correctly to protect himself.

"You have to know your surroundings. And up here, terrific and beautiful as it is, it's still wild. You need to be able to protect yourself, and that's what Titus did. You need to know the laws, and know where you are, and how to react. Titus did, luckily for him." And for Jake.

Bravo Company conducts car wash in record heat

By 1st Lt. Matthew Kisner
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — On July 18, Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, had its third of five car washes to be conducted this summer. On average, the company raises about \$200 per car wash, so by September, the company should reach its goal to raise enough money to purchase a company vending machine.

Each car wash, a squad is assigned to be in charge. July 18, the Soldiers of company headquarters were the lucky ones to be in charge. The car wash began at 10 a.m. under an already sweltering 90 degrees. But that was nothing compared to the projected high in the low 100s by midday. Due to the scorching heat, the company safety officer 1st Lt. Matthew Kisner ensured there was plenty of water and sunscreen available on site. Kisner and the noncommissioned officers ensured Soldiers were consistently drinking water and staying out of the sun when they weren't washing cars.

"Customers could not believe we were conducting a carwash in the extreme heat; however their donations were extra generous to help compensate for the weather," said one of the Bravo Company Soldiers.



Photos by 1st Lt. Matthew Kisner

Staff Sgt. Joseph Kelly washes off the car as quickly as possible, so the drying detail can begin before water spots start to form.



Sgt. Luis De La Hoz turns for the camera as he continues to wash rims.

Awards/Promotions

Military Promotions

Capt. Erich Atkins, Colorado Springs, 1st Space Brigade, Headquarters Company
Capt. Adam Brink, Colorado Springs, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense)
Sgt. Alicia Brogden, Fort Meade, Md., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), B Company
Sgt. Christopher Brumwell, Camp Roberts, Calif., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), D Company
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Donald Campbell, Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site
Sgt. Matthew Decicco, Camp Roberts, Calif., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), D Company
Staff Sgt. Stacy-Lyn De La Hoz, Fort Meade, Md., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), B Company
Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Drye, Colorado Springs, 1st Space Battalion, 2nd Space Company
Spc. Michael Easley, Colorado Springs, 1st Space Battalion, 2nd Space Company
Capt. Michael Euperio, Colorado Springs, 1st Space Brigade, Headquarters Company
Staff Sgt. Enrique Lopez, Landstuhl, Germany, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), C Company
Sgt. Christopher Page, Landstuhl, Germany, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), C Company
Sgt. Joshua Plyler, Landstuhl, Germany, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), C Company
Staff Sgt. Thomas Schmenk, Germany, Regional Satellite Communications Support Center-Europe
Sgt. Aaron Schneider, Fort Buckner, Japan, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), E Company
Sgt. Travis Smith, Fort Buckner, Japan, 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), E Company
Sgt. Eric Wannberg, Fort Meade, Md., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), B Company
Staff Sgt. Alexander White, Fort Detrick, Md., 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), A Company

Civilian Promotions

Adrian Epps, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Joseph Motley, Huntsville, Research, Development and Acquisition Office, Command Analysis Division
Barbara Tooley, Huntsville, Technical Center, Technology Directorate

Special Act Awards

Edwin Barber, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Studies and Analysis Division
Terrance Bauer, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix

Victoria Binford, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Garfield Boon, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Heidi Bowman, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Robert Burks, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Barbara Cantrell, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Jacqueline Crepeau, Huntsville, Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center, Systems Integration Directorate
Patricia Duggan, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Steven Eacret, Huntsville, Technical Center, GMD Matrix
Douglas Engle, Huntsville, Technical Center, Interceptor Division
Peter Feuerstein, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Simulations and Analysis Directorate, Models and Simulations Division
Rodolfo Gil, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Kenneth Hislop, Huntsville, Technical Center, Ballistic Missile Defense Flight Test Division
Carolyn Lucas, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Jay Patty, Huntsville, Chief Information Office, Automation Division
Robbie Phifer, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Cristina Rodriguez, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Terri Lynn Washburn, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Operations Directorate

Time-Off Awards

Pamela Fuhrman, Colorado Springs, G-6
Mary Miller, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center

On-the-Spot Cash Awards

Deborah Childress, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Leslie Duncan, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Adrian Epps, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Cassandra Gilmore, Colorado Springs, G-8
Philip Eric Gresh, Colorado Springs, G-8

Elaine Hanson, Colorado Springs, G-8
John Mason, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
David Pederson, Colorado Springs, G-2
Susan Tidwell, Huntsville, Research, Development and Acquisition Office
Dianne Trimble, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
Pamela Willis, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate

Length of Service

15 Years

Peter Feuerstein, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Simulations and Analysis Directorate

20 Years

Michelle Bower, Colorado Springs, G-4
Edith Coleman, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Ivan Martinez, Huntsville, Technical Center, MDA Matrix
Beth Whitaker, Huntsville, Huntsville, Research, Development and Acquisition Office, Command Analysis Division

25 Years

Daisy Barnett, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Innovative Ventures Office

Latika S. R. Becker, Huntsville, Technical Center, Advanced Technology Division
Lionel Brown, White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Technical Center, Directed Energy Test Division
Michael Cantrell, Huntsville, Research, Development and Acquisition Office, Integrated Capability Management Division
Hugh Mason, Colorado Springs, Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer, Operations Branch-West
Elizabeth Moulder, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate
John Ryan, Colorado Springs, G-4, Readiness Branch
Zakiyyah Shakoor, Huntsville, G-1, Plans, Policy and Training Division

30 Years

Julie Hanson, Huntsville, Technical Center, Ballistic Missile Defense System Test Division

35 Years

James Ball, Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site, Community Relations
John Crown, Omaha, Neb., G-3, U.S. Strategic Command Detachment
Norven Goddard, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Innovative Ventures Office

40 Years

Gayle Kirby, Huntsville, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Acquisition Management Directorate

49th Soldier sweeps WLC awards

By Sgt. Sara Storey
100th Missile Defense Brigade
(Ground-based Midcourse Defense)
Public Affairs NCO

FORT RICHARDSON, Alaska — A Soldier from the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) received three awards during the Warrior Leader Course here July 10-24.

Spc. Sasha Wenberg, military police officer, was placed on the Commandant's List, received the physical training award, and earned the title of Distinguished Honor Graduate for her performance at WLC.

"I was a bit surprised," Wenberg said. "I just went with the intent to do well in the course — I never expected to do so well!"

The course was very educational and had many practical examples of what will be required upon becoming a noncommissioned officer. The information presented by instructors was applicable to the students' units, according to Wenberg.

"They showed us how to use the skills they taught once we returned to our home stations," she said.

Also from the 49th and earning a spot on the Commandant's List were Sgt. Jeanette Padgett and Specialists Lisa Druga and Karen Hurst. Also graduating from the course were Specialists Daniel Garner and Russell Smith.

Behind the scenes at a weapons range

By Sharon L. Hartman
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

FORT CARSON, Colo. — Weapons ranges are nothing new to the Army. Soldiers, officers and enlisted alike, are required to qualify on their primary weapon bi-annually.

In order to ensure Soldiers have a greater opportunity to get familiarized and more comfortable with their weapons, the 1st Space Battalion “Space Warriors,” conduct quarterly range weeks — the most recent was July 12-17, and a behind-the-scenes look at the event brought to the surface the intricacies of running a successful range.

The range was more than just a battalion event in that members of the 1st Space Brigade headquarters, members of the 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), and battalion Reservists joined in with the Space Warriors to fire. To keep up with the large turnout of firers and multiple ranges, the 1st Space Battalion deployed a TOC to the range field. “We’ve not done that before,” said Lt. Col. Lee Gizzi, commander, 1st Space Battalion. “It was challenging because we had up to three ranges running at one time. Plus, we

were shooting outside units, but the battalion did a great job.”

The members of the TOC, predominantly staff members of the battalion, worked day and night to ensure the range ran smoothly. Capt. Windy Waldrep, the assistant S-3, worked with the battalion S-3, Maj. Gary Prater, in developing the warning order and subsequent fragmentary orders. “They put out the order based on the commander’s intent. So with him giving his intent, that’s when the staff started making preparations for the range,” said Capt. Erich Atkins, the battalion S-4. “The S-6, Captain (Jae) Yu, was in charge of communications, command and signal; the S-1, Lieutenant (Brandy) Morris, was in charge of personnel; as the S-4, I was in charge of supplies and logistics; the S-2, Captain (Scott) Weaver, was in charge of security of the TOC and also worked with weather and operational issues.”

An additional challenge for the host battalion was getting their Soldiers who were running the ranges qualified as well. “Now you have to coordinate to move those personnel off the ranges to go qualify and send someone to go backfill. And you have all these different moving pieces that have

to be taken into consideration,” added Atkins.

Gizzi supported Atkins’ comments saying, “You look at 4th Space Company who ran the zero range for the first couple of days. All their Soldiers were out there as safeties, helping score, helping coach, running the tower, running ammo for three days, and then they had to go out and shoot and qualify, so nobody was exempt from range detail. HHC ran a range that was on the opposite side of the impact area, but they were also our support company. When ammo had to be moved, you had to find Staff Sergeant Fowler, who’s our ammo NCO, and say get ammo from here to there. We needed to move food, water; that was the S-4 shop. They were out there trying to shoot and move coffee and get Kool-Aid out to the ranges and back to the mess halls and get it the next day. All that stuff happens in the TOC under the nerve center there for range week. Everybody knows what battalion TOCs do in combat; well for us it was a little different. It’s tracking the current fight — being able to adjust as the situation changes.”

See *Range* on page 14

Soldiers experience deep-sea fishing charter

By Sgt. 1st Class Michael Lherisson, Unit reporter

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — Living on a tropical island offers many unique activities not available at most duty assignments. One of those activities, which the Soldiers of Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, partake in on a regular basis, is deep-sea fishing.

Each of these fishing trips is unique in one way — you never know what is going to happen when you go out. On June 17, six Soldiers and one family member led by Echo Company commander, Capt. Todd Vick, set out on what they hoped would be a good day of fishing.

The day started at 3 a.m. With coolers, water bottles, coffee, and Dramamine in hand, the group met up with “Cap’n Billy” outside the gate of Camp Foster, one of the largest Marine bases on the island. He was the only American on Okinawa with the required Japanese captain’s license that is needed to operate leisure charters. Some of the services he offers include whale watching, diving charters and fishing charters.

It took almost an hour as the group followed Billy down to the southern part of the island to the harbor where his 60-foot boat, the Seiya Maru, was docked. After receiving the necessary safety brief and rules, the lines were cast off and the two-hour ride out to the fishing grounds began.

On the ride out, the group experienced what the captain called a “little chop,” as the vessel cut through the three- and four-foot waves, spraying



Photo by Capt. Todd Vick

Staff Sgt. Clayton Vanlangendonck (left) is all smiles after catching this yellowfin tuna that Cap’n Billy has a hold of.

anyone who was brave enough to stay on the forward section.

On the last leg into the fishing grounds, fishing lines were set off the back of the boat, and in quick succession, each person onboard got to haul in their first fish of the day. This type of fishing is trolling.

The fishing ground was marked by large yellow deep-

water buoys where schools of fish congregated. The boat was maneuvered to a position where the wind and current would push it close to the buoy. Each person took their rods and dropped a line over the side. This was drift fishing.

When the boat was well past the buoy, all lines were hauled in and once again the large

lines were cast off the back as they trolled back to a point where they could once again start to drift.

In the early part of the morning, the sound of people calling out “fish on!” could be heard at a regular interval. That is how the captain and his mate knew someone had landed a fish and was going to need help to get it into the boat. One of those two had to be the ones to take hold of the catch, as the fish have teeth and have no problem with taking a chunk out of someone’s thumb if they get too close.

As the day moved on, the fishing died down as the area became crowded with more than 10 other boats all trying to get the same fish. That changed with a little less than a hour remaining before heading back into port. Almost as if the fish had decided it was lunch time, the sound of “fish on!” rang out almost constantly.

Cap’n Billy finally decided it was time to head back into port, and the long return journey began. It was at this point that almost everyone decided to catch a nap. Once back in port, Billy cleaned and filleted the day’s catch — an endeavor that took two hours.

At the end of the day, all had a great time, and most had sunburns to prove it. Among the seven members of the Echo family, there were 53 fish caught, an assortment of yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, blue jacks and one mahi-mahi.

Of course, it would not be a fishing trip without the one that got away — an estimated 100-pound tuna which snapped the line when it was right at the edge of the boat.

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continued from page 13

Working the ammunition detail requires more than just handing out rounds to firers. According to Sgt. Taurus Jones who was on Ammo detail, “We could have anywhere from three to seven people working ammunition. You have one who signs for it and tracks it.”

Once the magazines are loaded, the ammunition detail keeps track of the magazines going out to the firers and coming back in, as well as the number of firers out on the range. “We keep track of the number of rounds they fired and didn’t fire and then use up whatever is leftover to give the Soldiers more practice,” Jones said.

Safety is a critical piece of any range. Each range has a safety detail headed by the range safety officer. “Part of our job as safeties is to make sure these guys keep their weapons down in a safe position in the low ready. When they finish shooting we make sure they put the weapons on safe, drop their magazines, and clear any rounds from the chamber that may be left in there. We just watch for overall unsafe acts. If we get an unsafe act, we’ll signal the tower with a red paddle and they’ll call a cease fire and stop the range from firing,” said Staff Sgt. Michael Hardin, a safety on the 9mm range.

The “voice” in the range tower controls the flow of the entire range. No one fires unless the voice in the tower tells them they can. The person behind the voice at this 9mm range was 1st Sgt. John Bruce, the range NCOIC, but prior to the range going hot, Bruce had a few other details to take care of with other members of the range detail. The detail had to arrive at the range approximately two hours prior to the firers to get the range ready. “When we first got here, we had to set up the

tables and flick the switches to pop up the targets,” said Sgt. Paul Lizer, a member of the 9mm range detail. “The first sergeant then went out to each lane and punched the targets to see if they would fall down. The ones that didn’t work properly were annotated and five or six targets needed to be fixed. Range control came out and fixed them because the range was degrading with the weather we’ve had over the course of the past few days,” added Lizer. “We went from all 10 lanes working to six last night which was not good because we can’t run as many people with fewer lanes so it takes longer.” After the lanes and targets were inspected, a safety briefing was given, and then the tower called in a cold time to range control and waited for a go before putting up the red flag and calling in a hot status.

The tower also had to perform hourly checks with range control to ensure they had communications, “because if we lose communications, we have to shut down the range,” Lizer said.

With other units participating in the range hosted by the 1st Space Battalion, careful planning and execution made it successful. Reservists and counterparts spent the week in temperatures over 90 degrees, and those out on the night fire M16 range had lightning and rain.

“This was an excellent range. I really appreciate the way 1st Space Battalion coordinated it,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Lewis. “It was smooth. Not a lot of hiccups and not a lot of wasted time. We thought the weather was going to be a factor, but it really wasn’t. It’s warm out here. Obviously the wind is blowing, but it was a very well coordinated, well run range.”

Minimum qualifications are according to STRAC standards, but the 1st Space Battalion



Photos by Sharon L. Hartman

In the photo above, a 1st Space Battalion safety displays a white paddle signaling to the tower that the firers are ready to proceed.

In the photo below, Capt. Erich Atkins, 1st Space Battalion, S-4, right, briefs Battalion Commander, Lt. Col Lee Gizzi in the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) set up for the range. This is the first time the battalion has deployed a TOC in support of a range.



1st Lt. Brandy Morris, 1st Space Battalion, S-1, keeps track of the range scoring on a board in the Tactical Operations Center.

exceeds them. “We have ranges quarterly so the perishable skills that come with Soldiers and their weapons are not forgotten so readily,” said 1st Space Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin McGovern. “We also incorporate a lot more familiarization fires, stress fires, reflective fires as well as close quarters marksmanship. Then we bring them out to zero and they go ahead and do the qualification, so you’re not going into it cold ... we try to do it quarterly and give them several hundred rounds through the other associated tables and firings that they would see in a combat situation.”

Added Gizzi, “We shoot four times a year because marksmanship is that important to me. It’s going to make a difference when you go down range. If you can’t hit what you’re shooting at, they’ll hit you. That’s the mentality we put into this. We go out, and we qualify in the first and third

quarters of the year. That’s the program we’re setting up. The second and fourth quarters, we’re going to do advanced rifle marksmanship. We’re going to do reflexive fires, we’re going to continue to work on entering a building, clear a room, the convoy operations ... the skills that they need when they go down range, because everybody leaves here. That’s the thing. It’d be one thing if you were in one infantry battalion moving to another infantry battalion. Here, you’re in a space battalion. You’re going to leave here because most of these folks as a battalion will not deploy to combat. Teams will, but as a battalion they probably won’t, but when they leave here and find themselves back in a provisional or brigade size unit and that unit going to war, if I haven’t trained them before they go, I’ve put them at risk. We’re not willing to assume that kind of risk. As leaders you cannot afford that.”

1st Space Battalion is 'Home on the Range'

By Capt. Scott Weaver
Unit reporter

The Soldiers of 1st Space Battalion, the Space Warriors, had one thing on their minds from July 12 to July 17 — putting steel on their target.

They were on location at Fort Carson where the heat was punishing during the day and the rain, wind and lightning ominous at night. None of these obstacles deterred the Space Warriors who packed up all of their tactical vehicles and headed south to the Fort Carson ranges for a week of weapons training.

This unique unit is comprised of a diverse mix of venerable veterans and tenacious future leaders all sharing the 1st Space Brigade patch, as

well as sound Warrior Ethos.

Those Warrior Ethos were illustrated during range week.

"It was the unfettered determination of our Soldiers that we should all be proud of," said Lt. Col. Lee P. Gizzi, commander, 1st Space Brigade, as he addressed the battalion standing before him. He was primarily referring to those Soldiers who chose to fire multiple times in order to raise their marksmanship scores to qualify.

Over the course of the range, some Soldiers raised their scores nearly 20 points, after starting with dismal initial attempts. It was the combined efforts of the coaches, leadership and the determined Soldiers that made the ranges such a success.

Soldiers fired basic qualification tables for the M-16 which consisted of 40 pop-up silhouettes ranging from 50 to 300 meters. Soldiers fired at the silhouettes from the prone and the supported foxhole positions. M-9 pistol participants fired at silhouettes while both stationary and moving. The Soldiers engaged in night fires on both weapons, and a known distance range was also run in order to give Soldiers more experience and to fine-tune their marksmanship skills.

A battalion tactical operation center was established for the



Photos by Capt. Scott Weaver

Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander Capt. Alyssa Aarhus loads M-9 magazines with 1st Space Battalion Soldiers, Sgt. Justin Williams and Staff Sgt. Alicia Scott.



Sgt. Chase Givens fires his M-9 with his coach, Staff Sgt. Allan Tidd, looking on.

first time in the field to consolidate information from all ranges and coordinate logistics. There were many moving pieces since there were four ranges operating with 1st Space Battalion Soldiers, 53rd Signal Battalion, and 1st Space Brigade Soldiers moving to and from the ranges.

The myriad of variables caused the operations plan to change frequently, but it was the flexibility of the staff that made the changes relatively smooth.

The weather offered an additional challenge as well. The sun burned down with a taunting consistency from morning to early evening when it gave way to vicious gusts of wind, nearly uprooting the TOC, with

lightning and rain. Still, with some delays for safety, the training forged ahead.

In a final act of cohesion and tactical proficiency, the battalion performed a convoy from Peterson Air Force Base to Fort Carson, Colo. The convoy was executed flawlessly, eliciting a number of waves, as well as impatient drivers. Companies then began recovery operations and returned to Peterson.

The training event not only qualified Soldiers on their weapons, meeting annual training requirements, but it also served to develop them for future conflicts. So when facing the enemy, Space Warrior Soldiers will strike faster and harder with pernicious effect.

Readings for Professional Development available

SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

Professional development for Department of the Army Soldiers and civilians can take many forms. One easily accessible method is the Professional Reading List issued by the chief of staff of the Army. The reading list addresses an extensive array of subjects related to the military and armed conflict from the Ancient Greeks to the modern era. As Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker states in the preface to the current edition, these readings are "a way for leaders at all levels to increase their understanding of the Army's history, the global strategic context, and the enduring lessons of war."

To facilitate this course of study, SMDC/ARSTRAT leadership has purchased the publications from Sublist 4, designed for Senior Leaders Above Brigade Level. Copies of these books are available for loan from the G-1 Offices in Arlington, Va., and Colorado Springs, Colo., and the Historical Office in Huntsville, Ala. We will be happy to work with those SMDC/ARSTRAT

Soldiers or civilians who are not stationed at these locations to ensure the widest availability.

Sublist 4: For Senior Leaders Above Brigade Level

The Challenge of Change: Military Institutions and New Realities, 1918-1941 — Harold Winton and David Mets, Editors

The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order — Samuel Huntington

Dereliction of Duty: Lyndon Johnson, Robert McNamara, The Joint Chiefs of Staff, And The Lies That Led to Vietnam — H.R. McMaster

The Dynamics of Military Revolution, 1300-2050 — MacGregor Knox and Williamson Murray

The Lexus and the Olive Tree — Thomas Friedman

Makers of Modern Strategy from Machiavelli to the Nuclear Age — Peter Paret, Editor

The Making of Strategy: Rulers, States and War — Williamson Murray, MacGregor Knox and Alvin Bernstein, Editors

The Peloponnesian War — Donald Kagan

Surprise, Security, and the American Experience — John Lewis Gaddis

Thinking in Time: The Uses of History for Decision Makers — Richard Neustadt and Ernest May

Transformation Under Fire: Revolutionizing How America Fights — Douglas Macgregor

Victory on the Potomac: The Goldwater-Nichols Act Unifies the Pentagon — James R. Locher III

War in European History — Michael Howard

An annotated copy of the complete reading list may be found on the Center of Military History's Web site at <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/reference/CSAList/CSAList.htm>.

U.S. Army changes service uniforms

After 104 years ... it's back to blue!

By Mark Hubbs
SMDC/ARSTRAT
Historical Office

The United States Army announced on June 6 that the suite of Army service uniforms would be streamlined to one blue dress uniform to be known as the Army Service Uniform. The Army green uniform will be phased out, and the uniform previously known as “dress blues” will become the new “Class A” uniform. It will be authorized for wear for any situation where the old green uniform would have been appropriate. The blue uniform will also continue to be worn for formal occasions. For many, this may seem like a break from tradition, but the shift back to blue is actually a return to the uniform colors that have been in use in America since before the Revolutionary War. In the generations leading up to the change to olive drab in 1902, a Soldier’s uniform was intended as both a dress uniform and combat uniform. When most of the European powers began to experiment with green and gray-green combat uniforms at the end of the 19th Century, the U.S. Army followed their examples.

The new uniform color was approved in 1902, and Soldiers began to receive the new olive drab uniforms in 1906 as stocks of the old blue uniforms ran out. The shade of green has changed through the years from the olive drabs used until after World War II, to the deeper green used in the current uniform. The American association with blue as a uniform color began in colonial times when many militia units chose blue for their uniforms instead of the red of regular troops. This was most likely done to ease logistics, as indigo for blue dye was grown in the colonies, where most red dyes were imported from Europe. The first standardized uniform used by the fledgling American Continental Army was also blue. In early 1777, the Continental Congress let contracts for ready-made blue uniforms in France. A shortage of blue wool broadcloth resulted in the delivery of only 15,000 blue uniform coats faced with red lapels and collars. Another eight thousand brown uniform coats were also delivered. The troops, however, desired blue uniforms and detested anything other than blue. As a result Gen. George

Washington “in order to prevent disputes & jealousy among the Troops of the Main Army ... and to give them all an equal chance” was forced to hold a lottery, to determine which of his regiments would receive the blue coats and which would receive the brown. Blue became so associated with the U.S. Army and our new nation that the U.S. Army Uniform Regulations of 1821 open with the statement “Dark blue is the National Color.” As the uniform evolved throughout the 19th Century, the enduring constant was the color blue for the uniform coat. The trousers emerged as light blue in the 1820s. The wool cloth used for

trousers was called kersey and was a coarser, cheaper cloth compared to the expensive wool broadcloth used for uniform coats. The cheap cloth could not take a consistent deep blue dye as the better quality broadcloth could. As a result, kersey was dyed a lighter blue. This tradition in the difference in shades of blue between the coat and trousers is carried on in the modern blue Army Service Uniform. So, in the near future when you start to see our young Soldiers in their blue uniforms, don’t think of it as a break from tradition. Consider it a return to our heritage of the “National Color.”

‘When a Soldier can be brought to take delight in his dress, it will be easy to mold him to whatever else may be desired, ... therefore every method should be pursued to accomplish what may so justly be looked on, as the foundation of order and economy in a Corps.’

— Lt. Col. Bennett Cuthbertson, 1768



Photo courtesy of Todd Post

Recreated French Contract Coat, c.1778



Courtesy photo

Infantry Sergeant, c.1861



Courtesy photo

The Army Blue Service Uniform